

# CHRISTOPHER PARKENING

www.parkening.com

(225 words)

Christopher Parkening is celebrated as one of the world's preeminent virtuosos of the classical guitar. *The Washington Post* called him "the leading guitar virtuoso of our day, combining profound musical insight with complete technical mastery of his instrument." *The New York Times* described his playing as "so intelligent, sensitive and adept that one can forget everything but the music." *The Los Angeles Times* stated that "Parkening is considered America's reigning classical guitarist, carrying the torch of his mentor, the late Andrés Segovia." The great Spanish guitarist Segovia himself proclaimed, "Christopher Parkening is a great artist—he is one of the most brilliant guitarists in the world."

Parkening's performances, recordings, and collaborations, which have included artists such as Kathleen Battle, Renée Fleming, Plácido Domingo, Josh Groban, Jubilant Sykes, and composers/conductors John Williams and Elmer Bernstein, have received the highest worldwide acclaim. A frequent soloist with leading orchestras, Parkening has performed at the White House and appeared on *20/20*, *The Today Show*, *The Tonight Show*, *Good Morning America*, and *The Grammy® Awards*.

Parkening has recorded extensively for Angel/EMI Classics, and has received two *Grammy®* nominations. His autobiography, *Grace Like a River* (Tyndale House) received wide acclaim. Currently, Parkening is Distinguished Professor of Music and Chair of the Guitar Department at Pepperdine University in Malibu, California.

Christopher, his wife, Theresa, and their son, Luke, live in Malibu, California.